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SEP 01 2003

Applicants: John A. Salon, et al.

Serial No.: 09/885,478

Group Art Unit: 1646

TECH CENTER 1600/2003

Filed : June 20, 2001

Examiner: Eileen O'Hara

For : DNA ENCODING A HUMAN MELANIN CONCENTRATING
HORMONE RECEPTOR (MCH1) AND USES THEREOF

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
August 25, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner O'Hara:

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 24, 2003 OFFICE ACTION AND
PETITION FOR A TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action issued March 24, 2003 in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the March 24, 2003 Office Action was initially due June 24, 2003. Applicants hereby petition for a two-month extension of time in which to respond to the March 24, 2003 Office Action. The fee for a two-month extension of time for a large entity is FOUR-HUNDRED AND TEN DOLLARS (\$410.00) and a check including this amount is enclosed. With a two-month extension of time, a response to the March 24, 2003 Office Action is now due August 24, 2003. However, since August 24,

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2003 falls on a Sunday, a response filed on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or Federal Holiday, i.e. Monday, August 25, 2003, is considered timely filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.7. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

In response to the March 24, 2003 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.